



Brownfields 2015 Area-Wide Planning Grant Fact Sheet Spokane, WA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through competitive grant programs for brownfields site assessment, site cleanup, revolving loan funds, area-wide planning, and job training. Additional funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Program

EPA's Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Program assists communities in responding to local brownfields challenges, particularly where multiple brownfield sites are in close proximity, connected by infrastructure, and limit the economic, environmental and social prosperity of their surroundings. This program enhances EPA's core brownfields assistance programs by providing grant funding to communities so they can perform the research needed to develop an area-wide plan and implementation strategies for brownfields assessment, cleanup, and reuse. The resulting area-wide plans provide direction for future brownfields area improvements that are protective of public health and the environment, economically viable, and reflective of the community's vision for the area.

Project Description

\$200,000.00

EPA has selected the City of Spokane as a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant recipient. The city will work with the community and other stakeholders to develop an area-wide plan and implementation strategy for the Hillyard neighborhood. The Hillyard Industrial Area once housed a thriving industrial center that was built around a freight rail yard and included steam engine manufacturing, maintenance, and repair facilities. With the diminished use of trains for freight shipment, the rail yard closed in the 1960s and most of the industrial land was abandoned and left to deteriorate. The goals of this project are to develop strategies to address legacy contamination and position the Hillyard Industrial Area for redevelopment. This redevelopment is expected to improve public health and promote jobs and economic opportunities for the community. Through the grant, the city will be able to conduct financial feasibility analyses for redevelopment of catalyst properties in the Hillyard neighborhood, prepare a framework to effectively and efficiently provide the infrastructure needed to make properties ready for redevelopment, and put together a redevelopment strategy for the project area. Key partners who will work with the city on this project include the Hillyard Neighborhood Council; the Greater Hillyard Business Area; the Organizations of Northeast Spokane; Greater Spokane Incorporated; Spokane Regional Health District; and Washington State Departments of Commerce, Transportation, and Ecology.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and

links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site
(<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 10 Brownfields Team
(206) 553-7299

EPA Region 10 Brownfields Web site
(<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-washington-idaho-oregon-and-alaska>)

Grant Recipient: City of Spokane, WA
(509) 625-6597

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.